APPENDIX

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MEETING OF THE COOPERATIVE CONVERSION OF SERIALS (CONSER) PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP Washington, D.C., April 11, 1975

[Editor's note: In a continuing effort to inform readers of the progress and activities of the CONSER Project, the LC *Information Bulletin* presents this report submitted by the Council on Library Resources, Inc.]

The CONSER Project's Advisory Group met at the Library of Congress on April 11 to review progress to date and to consider additional cooperative arrangements.

Added to the CONSER membership during the meeting were the Florida Union List of Serials (University of Florida) and the Boston Theological Institute. The Advisory Group recommended that consideration of any additional membership be postponed for at least six months. At the same time, a cooperative agreement between CONSER and the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services was completed subject to NFAIS board approval. NFAIS will supply up to 25,000 science and technology surrogates (photocopies of the publication's cover, title page, and masthead) to the CONSER file via the National Serials Data Program. NFAIS, in turn, will have access to the complete CONSER file.

The CONSER Project's Advisory Group approved the accompanying chart and explanation of the project's inter-relationships.

CONSER Inter-Relationships

[Editor's note: The following statements are keyed to the chart on the following page.]

1. The interim responsibility for the management of the CONSER Project rests with the Council on Library Resources. The Council also provides partial funding for the project. During the project, a more permanent arrangement will be made.

2. There is two-way communication between the CONSER Advisory Group and the CONSER management staff at the Council on Library Resources.

3. It is the responsibility of the CONSER Advisory Group to inform the U.S. and Canadian library communities, as well as the publishers and the abstracting and indexing communities in both countries. The Advisory Group is also responsible for informing CONSER management of the reactions to CONSER from these communities.

4. The Ohio College Library Center's system is the interim host site for the CONSER data base. OCLC's staff and management work closely with the CONSER management, Centers of Responsibility, and the advisory group to implement the project.

5. The initial files are loaded from magnetic tape in a batch mode. Shown are the Minnesota Union List of Serials, the LC MARC serials, and the Canadian MARC serials. There may be other initial files.

6. After the initial files are loaded from tape, the CONSER participants shown in the left semicircle begin their input on-line.

7. Periodically, on prior arrangement with OCLC, each user institution may get tapes of its own records from OCLC. These may differ from other CONSER records in that they contain local data.

8. This shows that Yale is also a member of the Research Library Group and the New England Library Information Network. Cornell University is a CONSER representative of the Five Associated University Libraries system.

9. Other OCLC users who are not CONSER participants also input serials records to the data base and have on-line access to these records.

10. After the initial files are loaded, there is a constant interaction between, on the one hand, OCLC and, on the other, the Library of Congress and the National Library of Canada. These two libraries input their own serials records; they receive separate tapes of their MARC serials records for MARC distribution. They also act as Centers of Responsibility for certain bibliographic content of the records.

11. Periodically during the project and at its end, the Library of Congress and the National Library of Canada will receive the CONSER files and distribute them as they do their MARC serials.

12. The National Serials Data Program (NSDP) within the Library of Congress and the ISDS/Canada within the National Library of Canada provide records from CONSER to the International Serials Data System (ISDS) International Center in Paris. In addition, these two activities receive from the ISDS records prepared by other national centers and by the ISDS Center itself. These records become part of CONSER. The NSDP and the ISDS/Canada have the responsibility for providing the International Standards Serial Number (ISSN) and Key Titles to CONSER records for serials published in the two countries, and for authenticating and locking these data elements. These two centers also provide to the CONSER records additional data elements required by the international system.

13. The National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services provides input to CONSER by way of the National Serials Data Program, and receives CONSER records in the national distribution system.

14. The Library of Congress and the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services inform U.S. publishers concerning CONSER and request their assistance in using the International Standards Serial Number. The National Library of Canada has the same relationship with Canadian publishers. The International Serials Data System in Paris and other National Centers perform this function for foreign publishers.

15. The National Science Foundation provides some of the funds and guidance for the National Serials Data Program so that it may satisfy the requirements of the abstracting and indexing services primarily and of the scientific and technical community generally.

16. The ISDS Center in Paris is responsible for communication with the international library and abstracting and indexing communities. It has other functions not related to CONSER.

CONSER INTER-RELATIONSHIPS

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